

Appl. No. 09/943,203  
Amdt. Dated August 25, 2004  
Reply to Office action of June 2, 2004  
Attorney Docket No. P13514-US1  
EUS/J/P/04-2084

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

#### **1.) Claim Amendments**

Claims 37, 40-47 and 50-53 have been amended, and claims 38-39 and 48-49 have been cancelled. Claims 37, 40-47 and 50-53 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

#### **2.) Claim Objections**

The Examiner objected to claim 37 because of a misspelling. The Applicant has amended claim 37 to correct the error.

#### **3.) Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112**

The Examiner rejected claims 37-53 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Applicants have cancelled claims 38-39 and 48-49 and amended claims 37, 40-47 and 50-53 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. The Applicants believe the claim amendments clarify the questions of indefiniteness raised by the Examiner.

#### **4.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

The Examiner rejected claims 37-40, 42-47 and 50-52 as being anticipated by Takahira, *et al.* (EP 720123).<sup>1</sup> The Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 37 recites:

37. A process of forming an encapsulated circuit board arrangement having at least one layer of tracks, the encapsulated circuit board arrangement having a first side as an interface side and a second side as a protective cover, the process comprising the steps of:

applying at least one layer of tracks on a first side of an interface carrier, a second side of the interface carrier being an interface side of the encapsulated circuit board arrangement;

applying an adhesive layer on top of the last applied layer of tracks;

and

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<sup>1</sup> Claims 38 and 39 have been cancelled and, therefore, the rejection thereof is moot.

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joining a support carrier to said adhesive layer, said adhesive layer being intermediate to and coupling said interface carrier and said support carrier, the support carrier forming the protective cover on the second side of the encapsulated circuit board arrangement. (emphasis added)

According to the invention of claim 37, an adhesive layer is applied on top of the last layer of tracks on an interface carrier, and is disposed intermediate to and joins a support carrier to the interface carrier.

The Examiner asserts that Takahira discloses "an adhesive layer 5." The Examiner, however, has mischaracterized the teachings of Takahira. Takahira states that layer 5 is a "plastic material," but does not disclose that it is adhesive. (see, e.g., Abstract and column 5, line 59). Therefore, Takahira fails to anticipate claim 37. Whereas claims 40, 42-47 and 50-52 are dependent from claim 37, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also not anticipated.

#### 5.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 41 and 53 as being unpatentable over Takahira in view of Shimoda, *et al.* (US 6,645,830) and Barlow, *et al.* (US 4,225,408). The Applicants traverse the rejection.

As noted *supra*, Takahira fails to disclose an adhesive layer that is applied on top of the last layer of tracks on an interface carrier, and is disposed intermediate to and joins a support carrier to the interface carrier. Whereas the Examiner has not pointed to any teaching in Shimoda or Barlow that cures that deficiency of Takahira, claim 37 is not obvious over Takahira in view of Shimoda and Barlow. Therefore, whereas claims 41 and 53 are dependent from claim 37, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also not obvious.

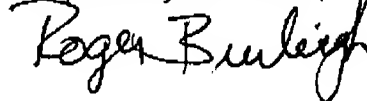
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### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 37, 40-47 and 50-53.

The Applicants requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger S. Burleigh  
Registration No. 40,542

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Ericsson Inc.  
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11  
Plano, Texas 75024  
(972) 583-5799  
roger.burleigh@ericsson.com